

PATENT

Application No. 09/136,147  
Attorney Docket No.: 98-041CLAIM AMENDMENTS  
CLEAN FORM

Please AMEND the claims as follows:

- B1
1. (AMENDED) A method for establishing a subscription to a periodical, comprising:  
receiving an identifier that indicates a non-subscription purchase of a periodical;  
determining if there is a subscription price stored for the periodical; and  
outputting an offer for a subscription to the periodical if there is a subscription price  
stored for the periodical.
- B2
20. (TWICE AMENDED) A method for establishing a subscription to a periodical,  
comprising:  
optically scanning, at a POS terminal, a bar code that indicates a periodical;  
determining an issue price of the periodical;  
determining if the POS terminal can initiate a subscription for the periodical;  
outputting an offer for a choice between an issue of the periodical and a subscription to  
the periodical, the offer including the issue price and the subscription price;  
receiving a response to the offer, the response indicating one of the issue and the  
subscription; and  
adding the subscription price to a purchase price if the response indicates the  
subscription.
- B3
48. (AMENDED) A computer readable medium encoded with processing instructions for  
implementing a method performed by a computer for establishing a subscription to a periodical,  
the method comprising:  
receiving an identifier that indicates a non-subscription purchase of a periodical;  
determining if there is a subscription price stored for the periodical; and  
outputting an offer for a subscription to the periodical if there is a subscription price  
stored for the periodical.

## PATENT

Application No. 09/136,147  
Attorney Docket No.: 98-041

B3

49. (AMENDED) An apparatus for establishing a subscription to a periodical, comprising:

- means for receiving an identifier that indicates a non-subscription purchase of a periodical;
- means for determining if there is a subscription price stored for the periodical; and
- means for outputting an offer for a subscription to the periodical if there is a subscription price stored for the periodical.

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B4

50. (TWICE AMENDED) A computer readable medium encoded with processing instructions for implementing a method performed by a computer for establishing a subscription to a periodical, the method comprising:

- optically scanning, at a POS terminal, a bar code that indicates a periodical;
- determining an issue price of the periodical;
- determining if the POS terminal can initiate a subscription for the periodical;
- outputting an offer for a choice between an issue of the periodical and a subscription to the periodical, the offer including the issue price and the subscription price;
- receiving a response to the offer, the response indicating one of the issue and the subscription; and
- adding the subscription price to a purchase price if the response indicates the subscription.

51. (TWICE AMENDED) An apparatus for establishing a subscription to a periodical, comprising:

- means for optically scanning, at a POS terminal, a bar code that indicates a periodical;
- means for determining an issue price of the periodical;
- means for determining if the POS terminal can initiate a subscription for the periodical;
- means for outputting an offer for a choice between an issue of the periodical and a subscription to the periodical, the offer including the issue price and the subscription price;
- means for receiving a response to the offer, the response indicating one of the issue and the subscription; and

PATENT

Application No. 09/136,147  
Attorney Docket No.: 98-041

B4

means for adding the subscription price to a purchase price if the response indicates the subscription.

PATENT

Application No. 09/136,147  
Attorney Docket No.: 98-041

- B5
61. (AMENDED) A method comprising:  
receiving an identifier that indicates an issue of a periodical being purchased;  
determining if a subscription for the periodical can be initiated; and  
outputting an offer for a subscription to the periodical.